

**Native American Advisory Committee
Draft Quarterly Meeting Minutes
October 29, 2008**

Welcome and Introductions: Chairman Joseph Myers opened the meeting at 9:11 AM with a prayer. He welcomed the Native American Advisory Committee (NAAC) members and participants.

Roll Call: Chrissa DesRosiers-Gomez, Native American Liaison Branch (NALB) took roll call.

Adopt Agenda: The Agenda was adopted with no changes for the October 29, 2008 Meeting.

Approved Minutes: Motion to approve July 23, 2008 Minutes by Member Bo Mazzetti, second by Member Ralph Hatch. Chairman Myers approved Minutes.

Members in Attendance: David Fass (Alternate), Fort Mojave Indian Tribe; Jacque Hostler, Trinidad Rancheria; Andrew Masiel, Pechanga Band of Luiseno Indians; Bo Mazzetti, Rincon Band of Luiseno Indians; Chairman Joseph Myers, National Indian Justice Center (NIJC); Dave Nenna, Tule River; Warren Tameritus (Alternate), Hoopa Valley Tribe; Scott Quinn, Karuk Tribe of California; Stacy Dixon (Alternate), Susanville Indian Rancheria; Cecelia Silvas, Pit River Tribe; Dale Ann Sherman, Yurok Tribe; Ralph Troy Hatch, Ione Band of Miwok Indians; Maryann McGovran, North Fork Rancheria; Carlos Hernandez, Bishop Indian Tribal Council; Kenneth Tipon, Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria; Lorenda Sanchez, California Indian Manpower Consortium, Inc; .

Director's Representatives in Attendance: Gregg Albright, Planning and Modal Programs (PMP) Deputy Director (DD), Department of Transportation; Joan Sollenberger, Chief, Division of Transportation Planning; Garth Hopkins, Acting Chief, Office of Regional and Interagency Planning; and Carolyn Yee, Acting Chief, Native American Liaison Branch.

Others in Attendance: Cynthia Gomez, California Environmental Protection Agency; Kathleen Sartorius, Caltrans District 1; Sandi Tripp, Karuk Tribe; Joseph Silvas, Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA); Dan Brewer, Caltrans District 10; Greg King, Caltrans Environmental; Tina Biorn, Caltrans Environmental; Marilyn Delgado, Shingle Springs Rancheria; Amber Ward, Yurok Tribe; Sharanne McCovey, Yurok Tribe; Pamela Kelley, California Integrated Waste Management; Nate Gauff, California Integrated Waste Management; Shirley Laos, Trinidad Rancheria; Gary Redenius, Hoopa Valley Tribe; Amy Ann Taylor, Rumsey/ Shingle Springs Rancherias; Kendra McKee, Dry Creek Rancheria; David DeLira, Dry Creek Rancheria; Mark Bobotis, District 11; Sandra Rivera, Caltrans District 2; Rich Olson, Caltrans; Paul Richard, Civil Rights, Caltrans; Christy Cottonwood, BIA; Arlando Teller, Caltrans District 4; Kanu Patel, BIA; Kimberly Johnston-Dodds, NALB; Chrissa DesRosiers-Gomez, NALB; Tim Seward, Hobbs Straus Dean & Walker; Peggy O'Neill, Yurok Tribe; Warren Phillips, Mooretown Rancheria; Nelson Pinola, Manchester Point Arena Rancheria.

Recognition/ Ceremony: Chairman Myers and Member Dave Nenna presented award plaques and gifts to Ms. Cynthia Gomez for 10 years of dedicated service to the Native American Advisory Committee (NAAC). Mr. Gregg Albright and Ms. Joan Sollenberger praised and acknowledged her many contributions in establishing the Native American Liaison Branch (NALB).

Old Business:

1. Indian Reservation Roads Program (IRR) – IRR Coordinating Committee Member Bo Mazzetti explained that the way the law is now written there is a loss of federal funding for the Indian roads maintenance program by one half. He emphasized that this could happen to the IRR Inventory Program if the tribes do not solicit their elected officials to support increased Tribal funding in the 2010 Transportation Reauthorization Act, now. Ms. Peggy O'Neill reiterated Member Mazzetti's concerns and recommended that Tribes join together to lobby Senator Dianne Feinstein, Senator Barbara Boxer, Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi, and other elected California officials on their funding needs for infrastructure improvements. Ms. O'Neill stated that Member Jacque Hostler will be a good, vocal advocate for the California Tribes at the IRR Coordinating Committee Meetings because she will carry the Tribes' message without compromising their needs.

Member Hostler stressed the need to understand the key issues. She emphasized the California Tribes should unite and explain their unique transportation issues and situation to their elected representatives and the Coordinating Committee. Otherwise, California Tribes will lose the battle to retain state and/or county roads on the IRR Inventory Program because of the tremendous pressure from out-of-state Tribes. She suggested that the California Tribes needed a California Indian Transportation Task Force for Reauthorization (Task Force). Plus Tribes in regions should unite and combine their resources to fund projects like some Tribes have done in the past. Mr. Kanu Patel specified this was a good approach to get high priority projects funded.

Mr. Patel emphasized that the Tribes should submit their IRR Inventory packets as soon as possible to avoid rejected submittals because of unforeseen mistakes contained within their packets. He also recommended the Tribes send their staff to the BIA Roads Inventory Fields Data System training to assist in inputting data on this program. The 2008 and 2009 roads would be grandfathered in. Mr. Joseph Silvas and Ms. Christy Cottonwood gave a brief status report on the BIA IRR Inventory Program. They stated that some Tribes did not submit a complete inventory packet, to date, and referred to their handout for details. Mr. Patel explained his handout on estimated projections of 2008 submitted road data from the 77 Tribes who participated in the IRR Inventory Project. They totaled over 38,000 vehicle miles traveled (VMT). His calculations identified the potential percentage of reduction and cost per dollar if certain criteria were applied to scenarios that excluded or included 1) 10,000 Average Daily Traffic limitation, 2) 15 mile limitation, 3) deletion of state and county roads, 4) deletion of state roads, and 6) summary of reduction of VMTs.

Ms. Hostler presented a brief presentation on the BIA IRR Inventory Program, California Tribes, and Caltrans involvement. A task list was discussed and created for the two BIA IRR Consultation Sessions. Members were solicited for input on what topics should be on the agenda. These included 1) two consecutive session dates in November 2008, 2) two session locations, 3) consultation definition, 4) desired outcome, 5) development of a letter to the Tribes, 6) Caltrans' cover letter, 7) employment of an official court reporter, 8) draft white paper, 9) draft letter to go with congressional delegation, and 10) Caltrans letter of support. A Task Force Volunteer List was generated which included Member Mazzetti, Ms. Sandi Tripp, Ms. Dale Ann Sherman, Chairman Myers, Member Scott Quinn, Mr. Patel, Ms. Kelly Myers, and Mr. Joseph Silvas.

2. Legislative Analysis Report Subcommittee – Chairman Myers provided a copy of the report and specifically discussed the following:

- i. CA AB 847 Joint Powers Agreements: Yurok Tribe: Author: Berg (D) Authorizes the Yurok Tribal Council to enter into a joint powers agreement with public agencies for the purpose of the preservation and restoration of fish stocks on the Klamath River and fisheries in the Klamath River Basin and related projects and activities.
- ii. CA AB 1032 Dredging: closed waters: wild trout endanger: Wolk (D) Prohibit suction dredge mining on the Klamath, Salmon, and Scott Rivers, and on certain tributaries of those rivers.
- iii. CA AB 2034 Curriculum and instructional materials: Native Americans: Author: Nunez (D) Encourage instruction about American Indians, emphasizing California Native Americans, including their tribal and sovereign governments and their relationship with the California state government.
- iv. CA SB 826 Native American Education: Author: Padilla (D) Requires the State Librarian to allocate grants to develop California Native American instructional resources for public schools.
- v. CA SB 1200 Indian Tribes: Economic Development: Author: Ducheny (D) Requires the Secretary of Business, Transportation and Housing to establish the Native American Business Revolving Loan and Guarantee Program

3. National Congress of American Indians/Intertribal Transportation Association (NCAI/ITA) White Paper –Ms. Kimberly Johnston-Dodds provided a brief progress report.

4. Transportation Authorization Act- California Principles – Member Mazzetti provided brief update. He expressed a deep concern that the Maintenance Program will be eliminated for California Tribes because of the way it is being managed.

5. Tribal Technical Assistance Program (TTAP) CA/NV – Chairman Myers represented Kelly Myers. He referred to TTAP newsletter (handout) detailing various training or workshop within the next few months. Chairman Myers stated the newsletter would be updated and become a quarterly issue.

6. California Transportation Plan (CTP) Advisory Committee – Joan Sollenberger provided a brief status report. The CTP is currently with the Governor's Administration Office.

7. Encroachment Permit – Chairman Myers tabled this topic for discussion at the next Quarterly NAAC Meeting.

8. TERO Update: Follow Up – Paul Richard, Caltrans Civil Rights Office, stated there was no updated information.

New Business:

1. NAAC Elections – Ms. Carolyn Yee give ballots to the NAAC Members and requested they be completed and returned at the end of the Meeting.

2. Rubberize Concrete Asphalt Grant Program – Mr. Nate Gauff and Ms. Pamela Kelley gave a brief overview of this grant program and its direct funding availability to Tribal Governments. Grant funding information packets were given to all interested attendees.